Senate Community Affairs Committee ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO 2011-12 Supplementary Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: Cross

Question No: 42

Topic: Government Payment of Accounts

Hansard Page: Written

Senator McKenzie asked:

For the year 2010-11, did the department/agency pay its accounts to contractors/consultants etc in accordance with Government policy in terms of time for payment (i.e. Within 30 days)? If not, why not, and what has been the timeframe for payment of accounts? Please provide a breakdown, average statistics etc as appropriate to give insight into how this issue is being approached.)

• For accounts not paid within 30 days, was interest being paid on overdue amounts and if so how much has been paid by the portfolio/department agency for the current financial year and the previous financial year?

• Where interest is being paid, what rate of interest is being paid and how is this rate determined?

Answer:

For the year 2010-11 the Department paid 99% of invoices to contractors/consultants on time. No interest was paid on the 1% of late payments.